

PATENT  
ATTY DOCKET NO. 14305

wherein said second prong has a length of between about 25% and about 45% of the length of said first prong and wherein said second prong bends enough to hold said object wire lath between said second prong and said bridge portion and to space said wire lath a predetermined distance from said substrate.

3. (currently amended) A reinforcement system for fastening to fastener for holding and spacing an object at a predetermined distance from a substrate comprising:

wire lath and a plurality of fasteners;

wherein each of said fasteners comprises:

a bridge portion having a length;

a first prong having a length extending in a driving direction from said bridge portion to a distal end for driving into said substrate;

and a second prong spaced from said first prong and extending generally parallel thereto in the driving direction from said bridge portion;

wherein second prong is substantially shorter than said first prong;

and wherein said second prong has a length of between about 75% and about 99% of the length of said bridge portion and bends to hold said wire lath between said second prong and said bridge portion and to space said wire lath a predetermined distance from said substrate.

4. (previously amended) A fastener for holding and spacing an object at a predetermined distance from a substrate comprising:

a bridge portion;

a first prong extending in a driving direction from said bridge portion; and

a second prong spaced from said first prong and extending generally parallel thereto in the driving direction from said bridge portion;

PATENT  
ATTY DOCKET NO. 14305

wherein said bridge portion has a length of about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, said first prong has a length of about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch and said second prong has a length of about  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch.

5. (previously amended) A fastener according to claim 2, wherein said bridge portion, said first prong and said second prong are generally straight-line segments.

6. (original) A fastener according to claim 5, wherein said first prong and said second prong are generally perpendicular to said bridge portion.

7. (previously amended) A fastener according to claim 2, wherein said fastener is made from a shaped wire.

8. (original) A fastener according to claim 7, wherein said shaped wire has a thickness of about 0.05 inch and a width of about  $\frac{1}{16}$  inch

9. (previously amended) A fastener according to claim 2, wherein said fastener is made from shaped 1018 carbon steel wire.

10. (currently amended) A strip of fasteners for holding and spacing an object at a predetermined distance from a substrate, comprising:

a plurality of fasteners connected together in a side-by-side array, wherein each fastener includes a bridge portion, a first prong having a length extending in a driving direction from said bridge portion, and a second prong spaced from said first prong and extending generally parallel thereto in the driving direction from said bridge portion, wherein said bridge portion has a length of about  $\frac{1}{2}$  inch, said first prong has a length of about  $1\frac{1}{4}$  inch and said second prong has a length of about  $\frac{7}{16}$  inch; second prong has a length between about 25% and about 45% of the length of said first prong and bends enough to hold said object between said second prong and said bridge portion;

wherein each one of said first prongs is aligned generally in a first plane and each one of said second prongs is aligned generally in a second plane so as to form said strip of fasteners.

PATENT  
ATTY DOCKET NO. 14305

11. (original) A strip of fasteners according to claim 10, wherein said fasteners are connected together with an adhesive.

12. (original) A strip of fasteners according to claim 10, wherein each one of said bridge portions is generally straight and each one of said bridge portions is aligned generally in a third plane.

13. (original) A strip of fasteners according to claim 11, wherein said third plane is generally perpendicular to said first plane and said second plane.

14. (currently amended) A ~~reinforcement system for fastening to fastener for holding and spacing an object at a predetermined distance from a substrate comprising:~~

wire lath and a plurality of fasteners;

wherein each of said fasteners comprises:

a bridge portion having a length;

a first prong having a length extending in a driving direction from said bridge portion to a distal end for driving into said substrate;

and a second prong having a length spaced from said first prong and extending generally parallel thereto in the driving direction from said bridge portion;

wherein the length of said second prong is between about 25% and about 45% of the length of said first prong and wherein the length of said second prong is at least between about 75% and about 99% of the length of said bridge portion and said second prong bends to hold said wire lath between said second prong and said bridge portion and to space said wire lath a predetermined distance from said substrate.

15. (previously presented) A fastener according to claim 2, wherein said fastener is made from shaped wire having a gauge between about 18 and about 12.